

61ST LEGISLATURE—REGULAR SESSION

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—ANNUAL
LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

H. J. R. No. 8

Proposing an amendment to Section 5, Article III, Constitution of the State of Texas, as amended, to provide for annual legislative sessions.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 5, Article III, Constitution of the State of Texas, as amended, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 5. The Legislature shall meet in regular session each year at such time as may be provided by law and at other times as convened by the Governor. When convened in odd-numbered years in regular session, the Legislature shall devote the first thirty days to the introduction of bills and resolutions, acting upon emergency appropriations, passing upon the confirmation of the recess appointees of the Governor and such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; provided that during the succeeding thirty days of such session the various committees of each House shall hold hearings to consider all bills and resolutions and other matters then pending; and such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor; provided further that during the following sixty days the Legislature shall act upon such bills and resolutions as may be then pending and upon such emergency matters as may be submitted by the Governor in special messages to the Legislature; provided, however, either House may otherwise determine its order of business during this session by an affirmative vote of four-fifths of its membership.

"Regular sessions in even-numbered years, commencing in 1972, shall not exceed sixty days and shall be limited to legislation on the subjects of providing funds for the support of functions and activities of the state government and emergency matters submitted by the Governor in messages to the Legislature. At each regular session, commencing in 1971, appropriations shall be made for the support of functions and activities of the state government for the next fiscal year."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at an election to be held on August 5, 1969, at which election the ballots shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to provide for annual legislative sessions."

Adopted by the House on April 15, 1969: Yeas 101, Nays 42; passed by the Senate on April 15, 1969: Yeas 24, Nays 7.

Signed by the Governor April 17, 1969.